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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 25 March 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

## A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

## B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

25X1  
25X1  
1. Nine students of the French Basic FT course spent 16 through 18 March at [redacted] This was the 20 week mark in their course. [redacted] OO, and [redacted] NEA, helped the French speaking members of the Romance staff. Timewise these students are even with the Basic FT students at the 10 week mark, but as a rule they have a slightly better grasp of the French language than their FT counterparts at this stage of their study.

25X1  
25X1  
2. The French Intermediate FT course has invited one French speaker weekly to discuss problems directly or indirectly connected with the course. The last three weeks have seen presentations by [redacted] FE, [redacted] OCI, and [redacted] SR, which all were found very beneficial by the students. [redacted] has been most helpful in setting up this program.

3. Russian Workshop terminated 20 March. Six students completed the fifteen-week course.

4. Funds have been approved for the retyping and putting in final form for lithoprinting of the Polish Area Reader, begun a year and a half ago. There are no area readers for any East European language except Russian, and our program of materials development provides for the preparation of several manuals in these tongues.

5. The German Basic RSW (Full-Time) class began on 23 March with five students, including one dependent. Another student has been accepted and will join the class on 30 March.

25X1  
6. [redacted] is on sick leave and will return in a few days.

25X1  
7. We are happy to welcome [redacted] to the French Intermediate RSW (Full-Time) class. He has been participating actively and, according to first reports, successfully in several sessions of the class.

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25X1  
25X1  
8. The present Japanese (Full-Time) class (three students) spent part of last week at [ ] accompanied by [ ] [ ] FDD was good enough to arrange for a Japanese-speaking couple to accompany the group, but the arrangement fell through at the last moment when one of the couple's children became ill. FDD then agreed to allow an older married woman to go along, but that arrangement also fell through at the last moment when the woman's husband (non-Agency) refused to allow it.

25X1  
9. An out-of-schedule Dutch 101 class was begun in the VLTP on 23 March 1959. The class was started at the request of the Chief of [ ] of WE Division who had an immediate requirement for part-time language training for four of his people. Since they were unable to attend any classes during the daytime the Voluntary Program was the best solution.

25X1  
10. For the first time this trimester (the sixth) the Voluntary Language Training Program instructors were asked to give a mid-trimester rating to each student, based on the OTR 1 to 5 scale. The results would seem to indicate that all of the students who would have received a (1) rating (about 30 to 40) had been advised to drop or had dropped out of their own accord early in the trimester. 42 students received a (2) rating, 140 received a (3), 77 received a (4), and 24 students received the highest rating of (5).

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